worth in the English: hee is a proper mans picture, but alas who can conuerse with a dumbe show? how odly hee is suted, *I* thinke he bought his doublet in *Italie*, his round hose in Fraunce, his bonnet in Germanie, and his behauiour euery where.

Nerrissa. What thinke you of the Scottish Lorde his neighbour?

Portia. That hee hath a neyghbourlie charitie in him, for hee borrowed a boxe of the eare of the Englishman, and swore hee would pay him againe when he was able: *I* think the Frenchman became his suretie, and seald vnder for another.

Ner. How like you the young Germaine, the Duke of Saxonies nephew?

Por. Very vildlie in the morning when hee is sober, and most vildly in the afternoone when he is drunke: when he is best, he is a little worse then a man, & when he is worst he is little better then a beast; and the worst fall that euer fell, I hope I shall make shift to goe without him.

Ner. Yf hee shoulde offer to choose, and choose the right Casket, you should refuse to performe your Fathers will, if you should refuse to accept him.

Portia. Therefore for feare of the worst, *I* pray thee set a deepe glasse of Reynishe vvine on the contrarie Casket, for if the deuill be within, and that temptation without, I knowe hee will choose it. I will doe any thing *Nerrissa*, ere *I* will be married to a spunge.

Nerrissa. You needs not feare Ladie, the hauing anie of these Lords, they haue acquainted me with theyr determinations, which is indeede to returne to theyr home, and to trouble you with no more sute, vnlesse you may be wonne by some other sort then your Fathers imposition, depending on the Caskets.

Por. Yf I liue to be as old as Sibilla, *I* will die as chast as Diana, vnlesse I be obtained by the manner of my Fathers will: I am glad this parcell of wooers are so reasonable, for there is not one among them but *I* doate on his very absence; & *I* pray God graunt them a faire departure.

Nerrissa. Doe you not remember Lady in your Fathers time, a Venetian a Scholler & a Souldiour that came hether in companie of the Marquesse of Mountferrat?

Portia.

Portia. Yes, yes, it was *Bassanio*, as I thinke so was he calld. *he was so*

Ner. True maddam, hee of all the men that euer my foolish eyes look'd vpon, was the best deseruing a faire Ladie.

Portia. *I* remember him well, and *I* remember him worthie of thy prayse.

How nowe, vvhat newes?

Enter a Seruingman.

Ser. The foure strangers seeke for you maddam to take theyr leaue: and there is a fore-runner come from a fift, the Prince of *Moroco*, who brings word the Prince his Master will be heere to night.

Por. Yf *I* could bid the fift welcome with so good hart as *I* can bid the other foure farewell, *I* should bee glad of his approch: if he haue the condition of a Saint, and the complexion of a deuill, I had rather he should shriue mee then wiue mee. Come *Nerrissa*, sirra goe before: whiles we shut the gate vpon one wooer, another knocks at the doore. *Exeunt.* *a heart*

Enter *Bassanio* with *Shylocke* the Iew.

Shy. Three thousand ducates, well.

Bass. *I* sir, for three months.

Shy. For three months, well.

Bass. For the which as I told you,
Anthonio shalbe bound.

Shy. *Anthonio* shall become bound, well.

Bass. May you stead me? Will you pleasure me?
Shall *I* know your answere?

Shy. Three thousand ducats for three months,
and *Anthonio* bound.

Bass. Your answere to that.

Shy. *Anthonio* is a good man.

Bass. Haue you heard any imputation to the contrary?

Shylocke. Ho no, no, no, no: my meaning in saying hee is a good man, is to haue you vnderstand mee, that hee is sufficient, yet his meanes are in supposition: hee hath an Argosie bound to Tripolis, another to the Indies, I vnderstand moreouer vpon the Ryalta, hee hath a third at Mexico, a fourth for England,

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